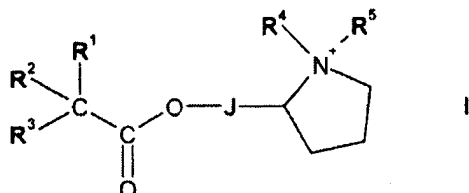


Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula I



in salt or zwitterionic form wherein

R^1 and R^3 are each independently a C₃-C₁₅-carbocyclic group or a 5- to 12-membered heterocyclic group having at least one ring heteroatom selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur;

R^2 is hydroxy;

J is C₁-C₂-alkylene;

R^4 is C₁-C₄-alkyl;

R^5 is C₁-alkyl substituted by -CO- R^6 , or -CO-NH- R^6 ,

or R^5 is C₂-C₁₀-alkyl substituted by -O- R^6 , -O-CO- R^6 , or - R^8 ,

or R^5 is C₂-C₁₀-alkenyl or C₂-C₁₀-alkynyl optionally substituted by - R^8 ;

R^6 is a C₃-C₁₅-carbocyclic group,

or R^6 is C₁-C₁₀-alkyl optionally substituted by C₁-C₁₀-alkoxy, -O- R^8 or a C₃-C₁₅-carbocyclic group; and

R^8 is a C₃-C₁₅-carbocyclic group.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 3, wherein

R^1 and R^3 are each independently a C₃-C₁₀-carbocyclic group, preferably phenyl, or a 5- to 9-membered heterocyclic group having at least one ring heteroatom selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, preferably thienyl;

R^2 is hydroxy;

J is C₁-C₂-alkylene;

R^4 is C₁-C₄-alkyl;

R^5 is C₁-alkyl substituted by -CO- R^6 or -CO-NH- R^6 ,

or R^5 is C₂-C₅-alkyl substituted by -O- R^6 , -O-CO- R^6 or - R^8 ,

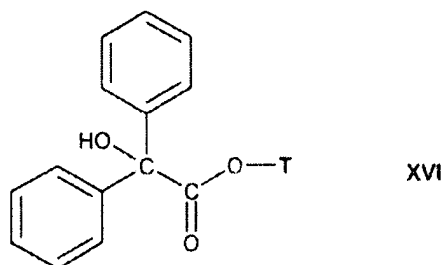
or R^5 is C₂-C₄-alkenyl or C₂-C₈-alkynyl optionally substituted by - R^8 ;

R^6 is a C₃-C₁₀-carbocyclic group, preferably phenyl,

or R^6 is C1-C15-alkyl optionally substituted by C1-C4-alkoxy, O- R^8 or a C3-C10-carbocyclic group; and
 R^8 is a C3-C10-carbocyclic group, preferably phenyl.

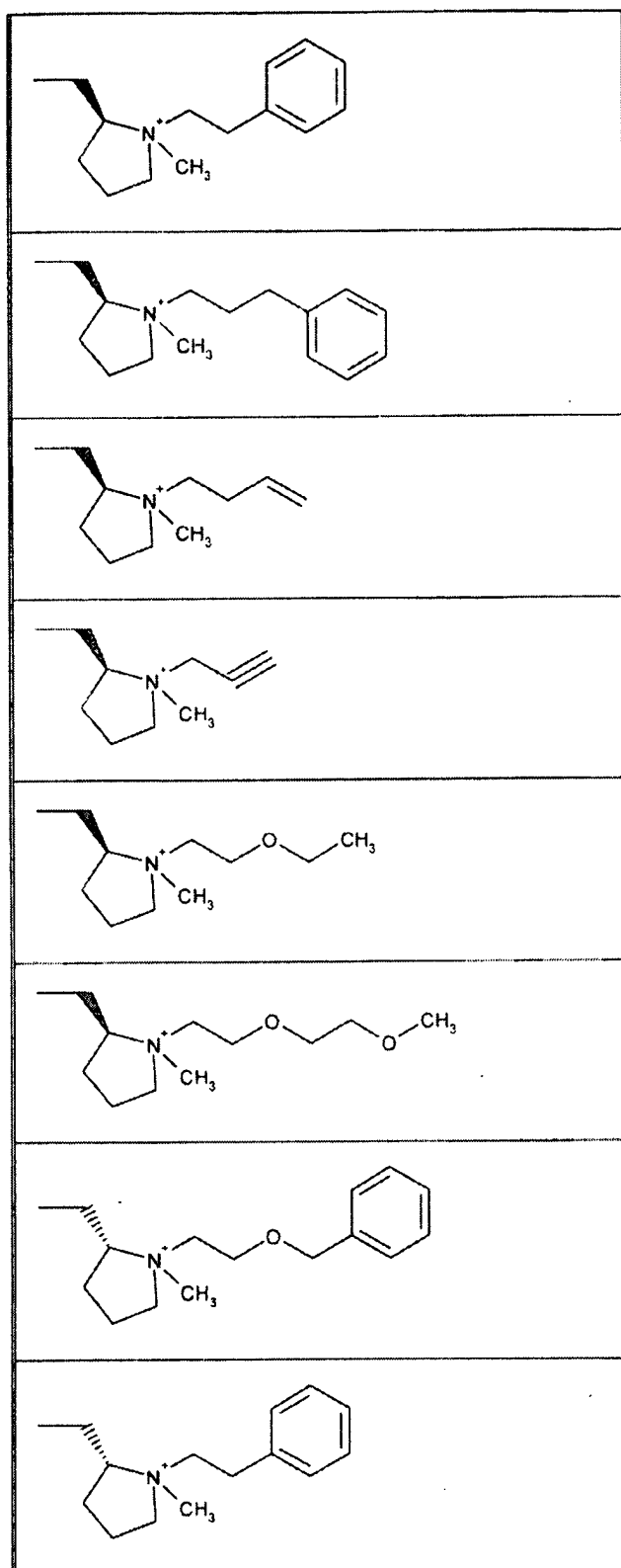
Claims 4-7. (Canceled)

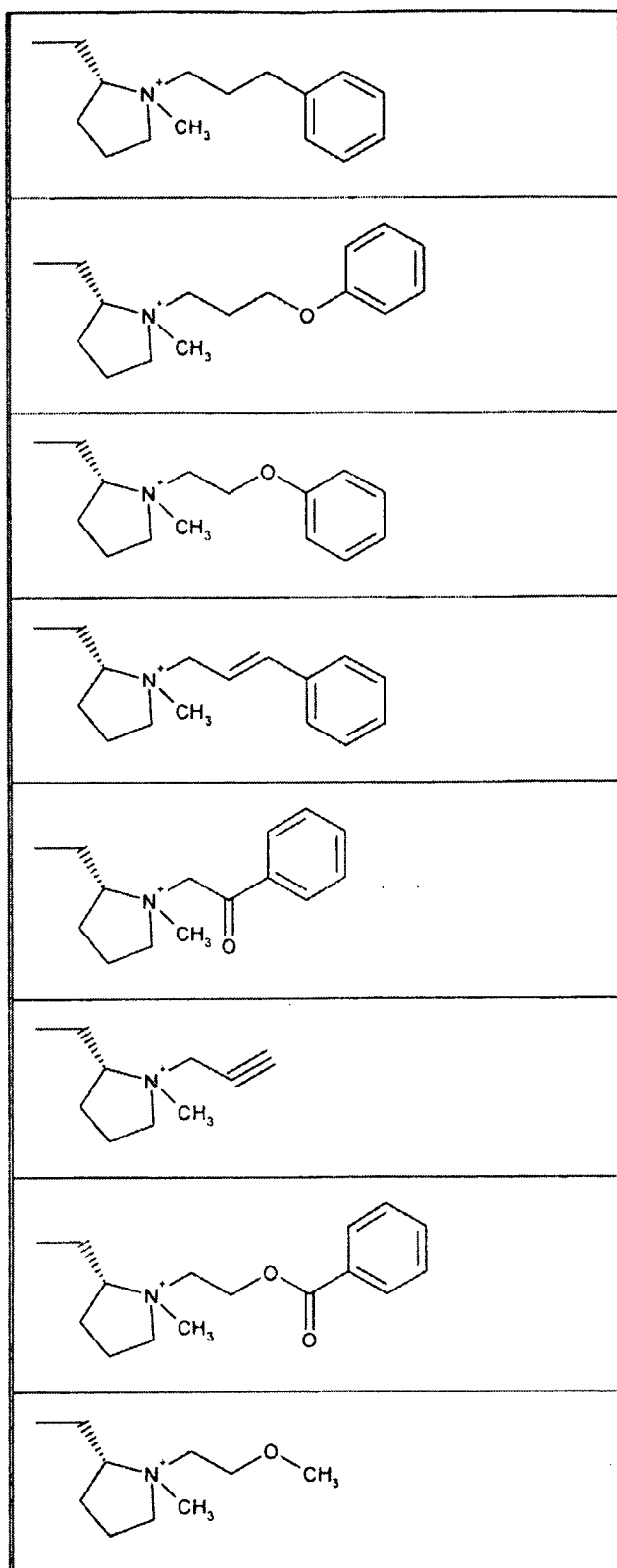
Claim 8. (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 1, which is also a compound of formula XVI

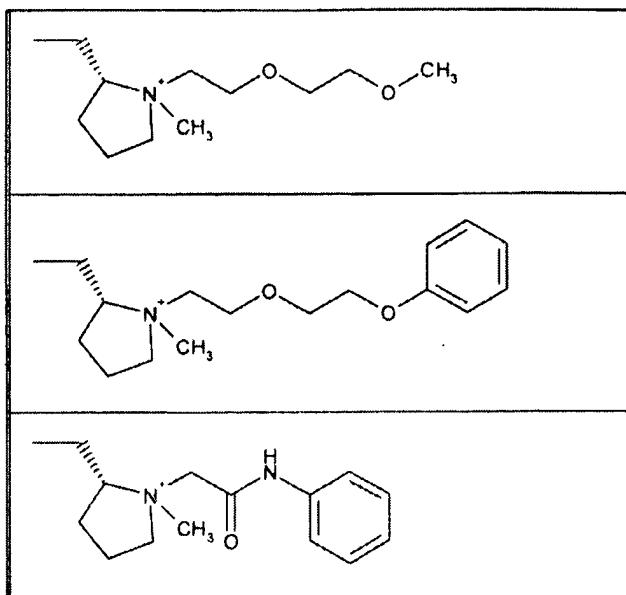


where T is as shown in the following table:

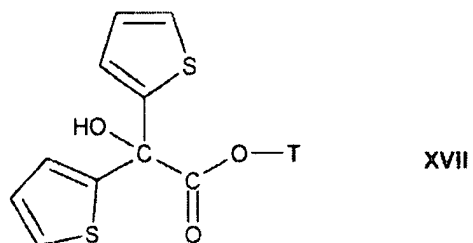
T



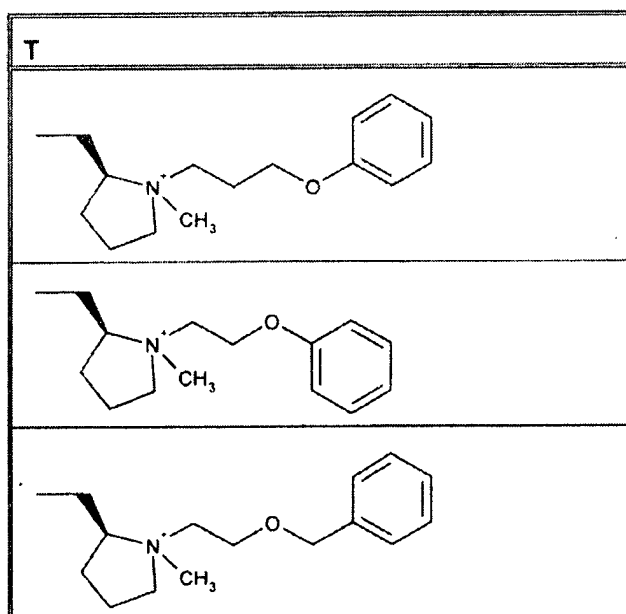


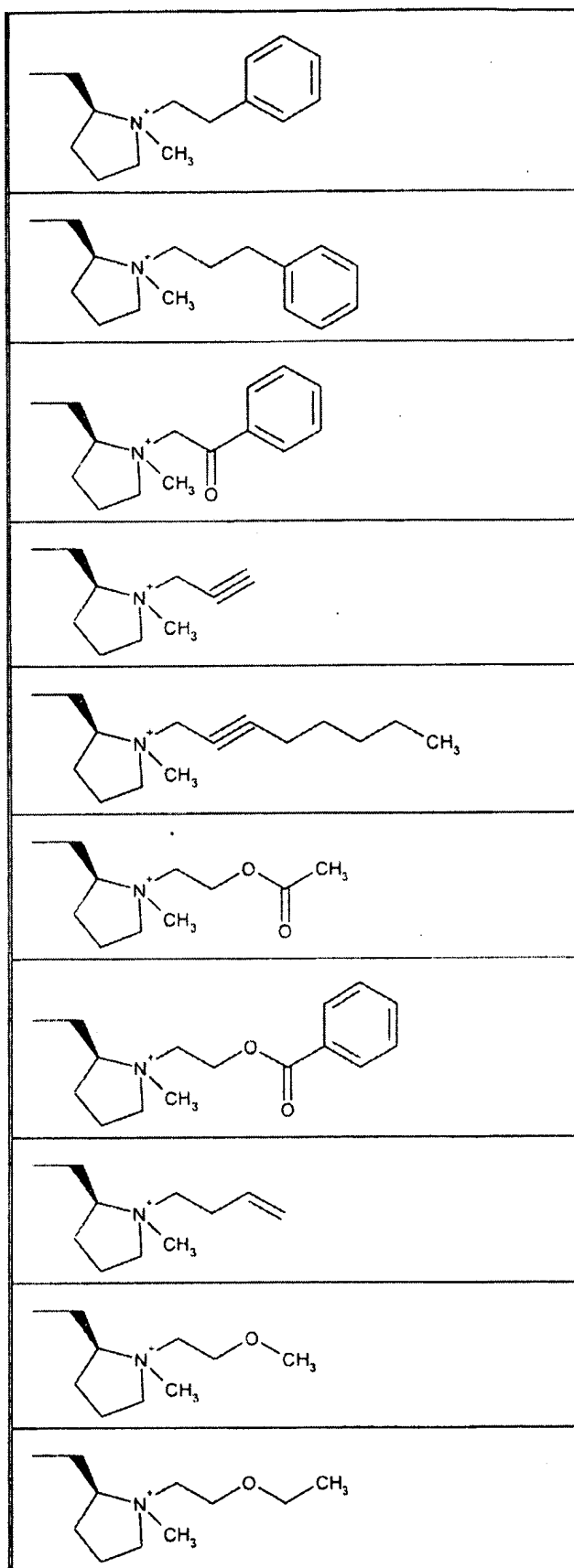


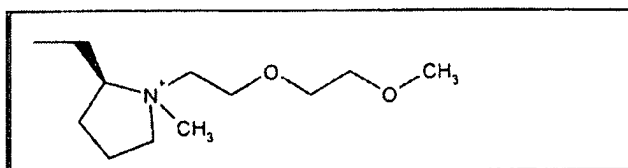
Claim 9. (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 1, which is also a compound of formula XVII



where T is as shown in the following table:







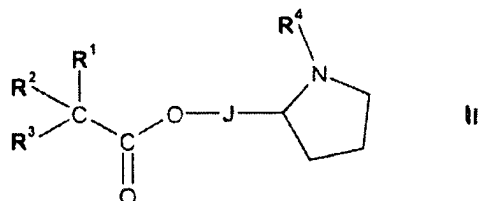
Claim 10. (Canceled)

Claim 11. (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising as active ingredient a compound according to claim 1.

Claims 12-15. (Canceled)

Claim 16. (Previously Presented): A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I as claimed in claim 1 which comprises:

(i) (A) reacting a compound of formula II

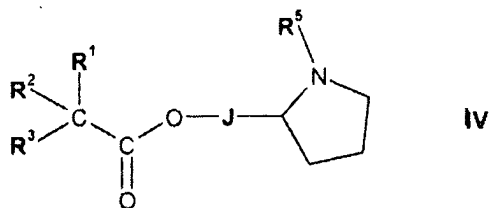


or a protected form thereof where R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , and J, are as defined in claim 1, with a compound of formula III



where R^5 is as defined in claim 1 and X is chloro, bromo or iodo;

(B) reacting a compound of formula IV



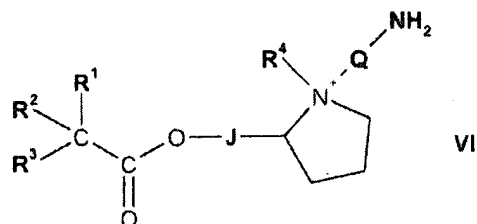
or a protected form thereof where R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^5 , and J are as defined in claim 1, with a compound of formula V



where R^4 is as defined in claim 1 and X is chloro, bromo or iodo; and

(ii) recovering the product in salt or zwitterionic form.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented): A compound of formula VI



in salt or zwitterionic form wherein

R¹ and R³ are each independently a C₃-C₁₅-carbocyclic group or a 5- to 12-membered heterocyclic group having at least one ring heteroatom selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur;

R² is hydroxy;

J is C₁-C₂-alkylene;

R⁴ is C₁-C₄-alkyl; and

Q is C₁-C₁₀-alkylene.

Claim 18. (Original): A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11 wherein the compound is a single enantiomer.

Claims 19-20. (Canceled)

Claim 21. (Withdrawn - Original): A method of treating an inflammatory or obstructive airways disease in a subject in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1 in free form or in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

Claim 22. (Canceled)